

THE BALTIMORE SUN.

WASHINGTON, December 13, 1860.

MESSENGER EDITOR: Recently the *Republican*, in noticing the disunion sentiments of the Baltimore *Sun*, cautioned our citizens of the disastrous consequences to property which must inevitably ensue from disunion. Would property only suffer from a disruption of our Union? Would not all business, of every description, certainly cease? Washington has no independent source of commerce, but all her prosperity is dependent upon the circumstance that she is the national metropolis. Disunion, by destroying the Government, would abolish the metropolis. Then the merchants' goods would rot in the store, the mechanic and clerk be driven from his employment, and the property holder deprived of his rents and his wealth. And this is not all. Ruinous to every description of interests as that would be, it would be but a trifle of the terrible consequences which must attend disunion. No doubt, in the furious struggle of the factions, Washington would become a fearful theatre of civil war, attended with all its horrible train of bloody casualties—of plunder and rapine and carnage!

Of, then, can any class of our citizens, consistently with its interests or its preservation, support a paper daily laboring for our own and our city's ruin? Can the merchant, whose business it would destroy? Can the mechanic and clerk, whose employment it would ruin? Can the property holder, whose wealth it would dissipate? Or the husband and father, whose wife and little ones it would yield up to the assassin and ravisher?

But, a circumstance connected with this flimsy rag, the *Sun*, should not be overlooked, even by the disunionists—a circumstance significant of the hypocrisy and mercenary motives of its conductor. The owner of the Baltimore *Sun* is the owner of the Philadelphia *Ledger*. The *Ledger* denounces disunion, and the *Sun* maintains disunion! In Philadelphia, the owner of the *Sun* glows with patriotism; in Baltimore, he is rampant with treason! In Philadelphia, the leaders of disunion are knaves and traitors; in Baltimore, they are heroes and patriots! In Philadelphia, disunion will involve our whole country in irretrievable ruin; in Baltimore, it will be the salvation of all! What inconsistency! What hypocrisy! How can disunion be conservative, and yet destructive of our interests? How can a man be for disunion, and yet for the Union? Can he be sincere? Can he be honest?

Utterly soulless and destitute of principle, without a single natural sentiment of the citizen and patriot, and death—wholly dead—to all the misery and peril of his country, this owner of the *Sun*, with shrewd Yankee cunning, in Philadelphia employs an American for his patriotism; in Baltimore, an Englishman for his treason! Were the mercenary and hypocrite ever so blended? Beware of him! Beware of him, ye citizens of Washington! Banish him, banish his flimsy rag, in time, from your firesides and doors!

A SOUTHERN MAN.

HUNGER THE BEST SAUCE.—“Hungry as a hunter” is not a bad comparison; at least, so thought a young Oxford friend of ours, as he was riding home to Alma Mater, after a long day with the V. W. H. Twenty miles to cover, and an hour and forty minutes down the vale, would create an appetite under the ribs of death; and our young student, who was the son of a cotton-planter, was rather remarkable, even among the “good-grabbers,” as having a peculiar twist of his own. Dismounting from his quadruped, and entering a small roadside inn, he begged the landlady to put something before him. The something soon appeared in the shape of the remains of a meat-pie, which was all that remained after her own dinner. Young Nimrod was hard at it “in the twinkling of an eye,” as they say at Brazen-Nose, and never ceased playing his knife and fork till mangled remains, but a Pelion upon Ossa of fragrant morsels, which would have puzzled our friend Waterhouse Hawkins to rearrange. “Capital pie!” quoth Nimrod; “never ate a better—quite equal to Gloomy Hintons’ crows-tarts. And pray what might you have made it of, my good woman?” “Oh, sir, there was beef and mutton, and lots of things in it.” “And fish, too, I see,” said the young disciple of Buckland, daintily balancing on his fork what appeared to be the vertebra of a flat-fish. “Fish, sir! Oh dear, no, sir—no fish. Why, deary me!” continued she, attentively examining the fragment. “Well, that is lucky! If it ain’t our little Billy’s small-tooth comb, and I have been a-looking for it these ten days!”

A HEAVY BLOW.—A colonel, who is fond of telling tough ‘uns, especially stories of which he himself is the hero, lately drew the long bow after the following fashion: “I was once in Montpelier,” says the colonel, “on official business. During my stay a horse-race came off near the capital; and as I am rather partial to horse-racing, I went to see it. Just as the horses were about starting, some fellow insulted me by jostling me rather roughly. Now, you know I don’t often fight, but when I strike, then I do strike. So I up with my fist, and hit him a blow that sent him against the fence into field, carrying with him nine sections of posts and rails. The fellow lay a short time, then raising himself into a sitting posture, he looked wildly around him; ‘gentlemen,’ said he, ‘has the storm done much damage?’ Did the lightning strike anybody but me?”

SAN FRANCISCO TAKES THE HAT.—The latest mention of the fertile Golden State is a plan to make white dogs useful. Your San Francisco can seize up his white cur, and with stencil-plate and black ink, inscribes his business card upon each side of the wretched pup, and sends him forth, a quadruped locomotive advertisement—a doggerel of the fast people of a fast country, in a fast age. It is reckoned that a lively dog will be worth at least five dollars per day, or equal to a quarter of a column in a newspaper.

A young lady, teaching school in Georgia, writes home to her parents in Vermont about a company of minute men who came out to drill. She says: “The most remarkable part of that performance to a Yankee girl was to see each soldier have a negro along to carry his gun.”

If the Disunionists continue to repeat their stories about the “Black Republican” to free all slaves, this custom might become rather dangerous when the fighting began.

It is said that when Fud Pasha, the Turkish minister, sent by the Sultan to stop the insurrection in Syria, reached Beirut, he desired to see some of the poor people who had fled from their desolated homes to that place. The criers went through the streets, and summoned first the widows. A mournful procession, a mile long, was soon formed, in which were some thousands of widows, who marched before the Pasha. It was too much even for his iron nerve to endure. He burst into tears, and covered his face with his hands.

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Organization of the Departments.

STATE DEPARTMENT.

The whole machinery employed to conduct the business arising out of foreign relations with all the Powers of the world is far more simple than is generally conceived. The number of employees in the Department of State of the United States is only twenty-eight, as follows: One Secretary of State, (Hon. Lewis Cass,) one Assistant Secretary of State, (Hon. John Appleton,) one Chief Clerk, one Superintendent of Statistics, twenty-two Clerks, one Translator, and one Librarian.

Diplomatic Branch.—This branch of the State Department has charge of all correspondence between the Department and other diplomatic agents of the United States abroad, and those of foreign Powers accredited to this Government. In it all diplomatic instructions sent from the Department, and communications to commissioners under treaties of boundaries, &c., are prepared, copied, and recorded; and all of like character received are registered and filed, their contents being first entered in an analytic table or index.

Consular Branch.—This branch has charge of the correspondence, &c., between the Department and the consuls and commercial agents of the United States. In its instructions to consuls, and answers to their dispatches and to letters from other persons asking for consular agency, or relating to consular affairs, are prepared and recorded.

The Disbursing Agent.—He has charge of all correspondence and other matters connected with accounts relating to any fund with the disbursement of which the Department is charged.

The Translator.—His duties are to furnish such translations as may be required, and he also records the commissions of consuls and vice consuls, when not in English, upon which exequaturs are issued.

Clerk of Appointments and Commissions.—He makes out and records commissions, letters of appointment, and nominations to the Senate; makes out and records exequaturs, and records, when in English, the commissions on which they are issued. Has charge of the library.

Clerk of the Rolls and Archives.—He takes charge of the rolls, or enrolled acts and resolutions of Congress, as they are received at the Department from the President; prepares the authenticated copies thereof which are called for; prepares for, and superintends their publication, and that of treaties, in the newspapers and in book form; attends to their distribution throughout the United States, and that of all documents and publications in regard to which this duty is assigned to the Department; writing and answering all letters connected therewith. Has charge of all Indian treaties, and business relating thereto.

Clerk of Territorial Business.—The Seal of the Department, &c.—He has charge of the seals of the United States and of the Department, and prepares and attaches certificates to papers presented for authentication; has charge of the Territorial business; immigration and registered seamen; records all letters from the Department, other than the diplomatic and consular.

Clerk of Pardons and Passports.—He prepares and records pardons and remissions; and registers and files the petitions and papers on which they are founded. Makes out and records passports; keeps a daily register of all letters, other than diplomatic and consular, received, and of the disposition made of them; prepares letters relating to this business.

Superintendent of Statistics.—He superintends the preparation of the “Annual Report of the Secretary of State and Foreign Commerce,” as required by the acts of 1842 and 1856.

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE.

Hon. Jeremiah S. Black, Attorney General of the United States; A. B. McCalum, Esq., Assistant. The ordinary business of this office may be classified under the following heads:

1. Official opinions on the current business of the Government, as called for by the President, by any head of Department, or by the Solicitor of the Treasury.
2. Examination of the titles of all land purchased, as the sites of arsenals, custom-houses, light-houses, and all other public works of the United States.
3. Applications for pardons in all cases of conviction in the courts of the United States.
4. Applications for appointment in all the judicial and legal business of the Government.
5. The conduct and argument of all suits in the Supreme Court of the United States in which the Government is concerned.
6. The supervision of all other suits arising in any of the Departments, when referred by the head thereof to the Attorney General.

To these ordinary heads of the business of the office is added at the present time the direction of all appeals on land claims in California.

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT.

Secretary of the Department of the Interior, Hon. Jacob Thompson, of the State of Mississippi. His clerical force consists of one Chief Clerk, (Moses Kelly, Esq.) two Disbursing Clerks, and ten other regular Clerks; and to his supervision and management are committed the following branches of the public service:

1. **The Public Lands.**—The chief of this Bureau is called the Commissioner of the General Land Office. The Land Bureau is charged with the survey, management, and sale of the public domain, and the issuing of titles therefor, whether derived from confirmations of grants made by former Governments, by sales, donations, or grants for schools, military bounties, or public improvements, and likewise the revision of Virginia military bounty land claims, and the issuing of scrip in lieu thereof. The Land Office, also, audits its own accounts. The present Commissioner is Joseph S. Wilson. His principal officers are a Recorder, Chief Clerk, who also acts as Commissioner ad interim, Principal Clerk of Surveys, besides a Draughtsman, Assistant Draughtsman, and some 150 Clerks of various grades.

Pensions.—The present head of this bureau is George C. Whiting, of Virginia. The Commissioner is charged with the examination and adjudication of all claims arising under the various and numerous laws passed by Congress granting bounty land or pensions for the military or naval services in the revolutionary and subsequent wars in which the United States have been engaged. He has one Chief Clerk, (John Robb, Esq.) and a permanent corps, consisting of some seventy other Clerks.

Indian Affairs.—Commissioner of Indian Affairs, A. B. Greenwood, of Arkansas. He is provided with a Chief Clerk, and about fifteen other subordinate Clerks.

Patent Office.—Hon. Philip F. Thomas, of Maryland, Commissioner of Patents. To this Bureau is committed the execution and performance of all “acts and things touching and respecting the granting and issuing of patents for new and useful discoveries, inventions, and improvements;” the collection of statistics relating to agriculture; the collection and distribution of seeds, plants, and cuttings. It has a Chief Clerk, who is by law the acting Commissioner of Patents in the absence of the Commissioner—twelve principal and twelve assistant Examiners of Patents, some dozen subordinate permanent Clerks, besides a considerable number of temporary employees. Samuel T. Shugart, Esq., Chief Clerk.

An act passed at the last session of Congress provided that all books, maps, charts, and other publications, heretofore deposited in the Department of State, according to the laws regulating copyrights, should be removed to the Department of the Interior, which is charged with all the duties connected with matters pertaining to copyright; which duties have been assigned to the Secretary of the Interior to the Patent Office.

See, as belonging most appropriately to this branch of the service.

Reside these four principal branches of this new Executive Department, the organic act of 1849 transferred to it from the Treasury Department the supervision of the accounts of the United States Marshals and Attorneys, and the Clerks of the United States Courts, the management of the lead and other mines of the United States, and the affairs of the penitentiary of the United States in the District of Columbia; and from the State Department the duty of taking and returning the censuses of the United States, and of supervising and directing the acts of the Commissioner of Public Buildings. The Hospital for the Insane of the army and navy and of the District of Columbia is also under the management of this Department; in addition to which, by laws recently passed, the Secretary of the Interior is charged with the construction of the three wagon roads leading to the Pacific coast.

Under act of February 5, 1859, “providing for keeping and revising all public documents, all the books, documents, &c., printed or purchased by the Government,” the Annals of Congress, American State Papers, American Archives, Jefferson's and Adams's Works, are transferred to this Department from the State Department, Library of Congress, and elsewhere; also, the Journals and Documents of the Thirty-fifth Congress. These valuable works are distributed to those who are by law entitled to receive them, and to such “colleges, public libraries, astronomical, literary and scientific institutions, boards of trade, or public associations,” as shall be designated by the members of Congress.

The Department requires an additional building for its accommodation, and the erection of one has been repeatedly recommended during the last few years for that purpose. At present, the Pension Office is provided with rooms in what is known as “Winder's Building,” while the other branches of the Department, including the Secretary's office, are all crowded into the Patent Office building, which is not only required at an early day for the use of the Patent Office, for which it was originally intended.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

The Treasury Department consists of the offices of the Secretary of the Treasury, two Comptrollers, Commissioner of the Customs, six Auditors, Treasurer, Register, Solicitor, Light-house Board, and Coast Survey.

The following is a brief indication of the duties of these several offices, and of the force employed therein, respectively:

Secretary's Office.—Hon. Howell Cobb, Secretary of the Treasury; Hon. Philip Clayton, Assistant Secretary; one Engineer in Charge; one Architect, and three Draughtsmen temporarily employed, and twenty-three Clerks. The Secretary of the Treasury is charged with the general supervision of the fiscal transactions of the Government, and the execution of the laws concerning the commerce and navigation of the United States. He superintends the survey of the coast, the light-house establishment, the marine hospitals of the United States, and the construction of certain public buildings for customs-houses and other purposes.

First Comptroller's Office.—Hon. William McAllister, Comptroller, and fifteen Clerks. He prescribes the mode of keeping and rendering accounts for the civil and diplomatic service, as well as the public lands, and revises and certifies the balances arising thereon.

Second Comptroller's Office.—J. M. Catta, Esq., Comptroller, and seventeen Clerks. He prescribes the mode of keeping and rendering the accounts of the Army, Navy, and Indian departments of the public service, and revises and certifies the balances arising thereon.

Office of Commissioner of Customs.—Samuel Ingels, Esq., Commissioner, and eleven Clerks. He prescribes the mode of keeping and rendering the accounts of the customs, revenue, and disbursements, and for the building and repairing custom-houses, &c., and revises and certifies the balances arising thereon.

First Auditor's Office.—Thomas L. Smith, Esq., First Auditor, and nineteen Clerks. He receives and adjusts the accounts of the customs revenue and disbursements, appropriations and expenditures on account of the civil list, and under private acts of Congress, and reports the balances to the Commissioner of the Customs and the First Comptroller, respectively, for their decision thereon.

Second Auditor's Office.—Thomas J. D. Fuller, Esq., Auditor, and twenty-one Clerks. He receives and adjusts all accounts relating to the pay, clothing, and recruiting of the army, as well as armories, arsenals, and ordnance, and all accounts relating to the Indian department, and reports the balances to the Second Comptroller, for his decision thereon.

Third Auditor's Office.—Robert J. Atkinson, Esq., Third Auditor, and seventy-eight Clerks. He receives and adjusts all accounts for subsistence of the army, fortifications, Military Academy, military roads, and the Quartermaster's department, as well as for pensions, claims arising from military services previous to 1816, and for his and other property lost in the military service, under various acts of Congress, and reports the balances to the Second Comptroller, for his decision thereon.

Fourth Auditor's Office.—A. J. O'Bannon, Esq., Fourth Auditor, and sixteen Clerks. He receives and adjusts all accounts for the service of the Navy Department, and reports the balances to the Second Comptroller, for his decision thereon.

Fifth Auditor's Office.—Bartholomew Fuller, Esq., Fifth Auditor, and six Clerks. He receives and adjusts all accounts for diplomatic and similar services performed under the direction of the State Department, and reports the balances to the First Comptroller, for his decision thereon.

Sixth Auditor's Office.—Dr. Thomas M. Tate, Auditor of the Treasury for the Post Office Department, and fourteen Clerks. He receives and adjusts all accounts arising from the service of the Post Office Department. His decisions are final, unless an appeal be taken in twelve months to the First Comptroller. He superintends the collection of all debts due the Post Office Department, and all penalties and forfeitures imposed on postmasters and mail contractors for failing to do their duty; he directs suits and legal proceedings, civil and criminal, and takes all such measures as may be authorized by law to enforce the prompt payment of moneys due to the Department; insures the United States attorneys, marshals, and clerks, on all matters relating thereto; and receives returns from each term of the United States courts, of the condition and progress of such suits and legal proceedings; has charge of all lands and other property assigned to the United States in payment of debts due the Post Office Department, and has power to sell and dispose of the same for the benefit of the United States.

Treasurer's Office.—Samuel Casey, Esq., Treasurer, and thirteen Clerks. He receives and keeps the money of the United States in his own office, and that of the depositories created by the act of the 6th of August, 1846, and pays out the same upon warrants drawn by the Secretary of the Treasury, countersigned by the First Comptroller, and upon warrants drawn by the Postmaster General, and countersigned by the Sixth Auditor, and recorded by the Register. He also holds public moneys advanced by warrant to disbursing officers, and pays out the same upon their checks.

Register's Office.—Finley Bigger, Esq., Register, and twenty-nine Clerks. He keeps the accounts of public receipts and expenditures; receives the returns and makes out the official statement of commerce and navigation of the United States, and receives from the First Comptroller and Commissioner of Customs all accounts and

vouchers decided by them, and is charged by law with their safe keeping.

Solicitor's Office.—Hon. Junius Hillier, Solicitor, and six Clerks. He superintends all civil suits commenced by the United States, (except those arising in the Post Office Department,) and instructs the United States attorneys, marshals, and clerks, in all matters relating to them and their results. He receives returns from each term of the United States courts, showing the progress and condition of such suits; has charge of all lands and other property assigned to the United States in payment of debts, (except those assigned in payment of debts due the Post Office Department,) and has power to sell and dispose of the same for the benefit of the United States.

Light-House Board.—Hon. Howell Cobb, Secretary of the Treasury, ex-officio President; Commander E. G. Tilton, United States Navy, Chairman; Major A. H. Bowman, Corps of Engineers, United States Army, Capt. A. A. Humphreys, Corps of Topographical Engineers, United States Army; Prof. Joseph Henry, Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution; Prof. A. D. Bache, Superintendent of the Coast Survey; Commander Raphael Semmes, United States Navy, and Captain W. F. Smith, Corps Topographical Engineers, United States Army, members, the last two being also Secretaries; and five Clerks. This board directs the building and repairing of light-houses, light-vessels, beacons, and buoys, contracts for supplies, and governs the personnel of the establishment.

United States Coast Survey.—Professor A. D. Bache, LL. D., Superintendent, and Superintendent of Weights and Measures.

Capt. William R. Palmer, Corps Topographical Engineers, United States Army, in charge of the Coast Survey Office; Lieut. A. P. Hill, United States Army, Assistant.

Assistant W. P. Trowbridge, computer of longitudes.

Assistant Chas. A. Schott, in charge of computing division.

Assistant L. F. Pourtales, in charge of tidal division.

Lieut. Thomas Wilson, United States Army, in charge of drawing division.

Mr. Edward Wharton, acting in charge of engraving division.

Lieut. John R. Smead, United States Army, in charge of miscellaneous divisions.

Samuel Hein, Disbursing Agent.

George Mathiot, Electrotypist.

Joseph Saxton, Assistant to Superintendent of Weights and Measures.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT.

Hon. Joseph Holt, Postmaster General. The direction and management of the Post Office Department are assigned by the Constitution and laws to the Postmaster General. That his business may be the more conveniently arranged and prepared for his final action, it is distributed among several bureaus, as follows: The Appointment Office, in charge of the First Assistant Postmaster General; the Contract Office, in charge of the Second Assistant Postmaster General; the Finance Office, in charge of the Third Assistant Postmaster General; and the Inspection Office, in charge of the Chief Clerk.

Appointment Office.—Horatio King, Esq., First Assistant Postmaster General, and nineteen Clerks. To this office are assigned all questions relating to the establishment and discontinuance of post offices, changes of sites and names, appointment and removal of postmasters and route and local agents, as also the giving of instructions to postmasters. Postmasters are furnished with marking and rating stamps and letter balances by this bureau, which is charged also with providing blanks and stationery for the use of the Department, and with the superintendence of the several agencies established for supplying postmasters with blanks. To this bureau is likewise assigned the supervision of the ocean mail steamship lines, and of the foreign and international postal arrangements.

Contract Office.—William H. Dundas, Esq., Second Assistant Postmaster General, and twenty-six Clerks. To this office is assigned the business of arranging the mail service of the United States, and placing the same under contract, embracing all correspondence and proceedings respecting the frequency of trips, mode of conveyance, and times of departures and arrivals on all the routes; the course of the mail between the different sections of the country, the points of mail distribution, and the regulations for the government of the domestic mail service of the United States. It prepares the advertisements for mail proposals, receives the bids, and takes charge of the annual and occasional mail lettings, and the adjustment and execution of the contracts. All applications for the establishment or alteration of mail arrangements, and the appointment of Mail Messengers, should be sent to this office. All claims should be submitted to it for transportation service not under contract, as the recognition of said service is first to be obtained through the Contract Office, as a necessary authority for the proper credit of the Auditor's Office. From this office all postmasters at the ends of routes receive the statement of mail arrangements, and the respective routes. It reports weekly to the Auditor all contracts executed, and all orders affecting accounts for mail transportation; prepares the statistical exhibits of the mail service, and the reports of the mail lettings, giving a statement of each bid; also, of the contracts made, the new service originated, the curtailments ordered, and the additional allowances granted within the year.

Finance Office.—A. N. Zevely, Esq., Third Assistant Postmaster General, and twenty-one Clerks. To this office are assigned the supervision and management of the financial business of the Department, not devolved by law upon the Auditor, embracing accounts with the draft offices and other depositories of the Department, the issuing of warrants and drafts in payment of balances reported by the Auditor to be due to mail contractors and other persons, the supervision of the accounts of offices under orders to deposit their quarterly balances at designated points, and the superintendence of the rendition of postmasters of their quarterly returns of postage. It has charge of the Draft-Letter Office, of the issuing of postage stamps, and stamped envelopes for the pre-payment of postage, and of the accounts connected therewith.

To the Third Assistant Postmaster General all postmasters should direct their quarterly returns of postage; those at draft offices, their letters reporting quarterly the net proceeds of their offices; and those at depositing offices, their certificates of deposits; to him should also be directed the weekly and monthly returns of the depositories of the Department, as well as all applications and receipts for postage stamps and stamped envelopes, and for dead letters.

Inspection Office.—Benj. N. Cements, Esq., Chief Clerk, and seventeen Clerks. To this office is assigned the duty of receiving and examining the registers of the arrivals and departures of the mails, certificates of the service of route agents, and reports of mail failures; of noting the delinquencies of contractors, and preparing thereon for the action of the Postmaster General; furnishing blanks for mail registers, and reports of mail failures; providing and sending out mail bags and mail locks and keys, and doing all other things which may be necessary to secure a faithful and exact performance of all mail contracts.

All cases of mail depredation, or violation of law by private expressmen, or by the forging or illegal use of postage stamps, are under the supervision of this office, and should be reported to it.

All communications respecting lost money, letters, mail registrations, or other violations of law, or mail locks and keys, should be directed, “Chief Clerk, Post Office Department.”

All registers of the arrivals and departures of

the mails, certificates of the service of route agents, reports of mail failures, applications for blank registers, and reports of failures, and all complaints against contractors for irregular or imperfect service, should be directed, “Inspection Office, Post Office Department.”